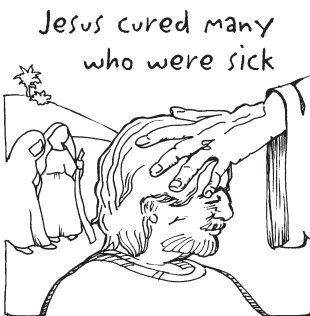


Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

TODAY'S MESSAGE

TIRELESS DISCIPLESHIP

The Gospel of Mark, unlike those of Matthew and Luke, has no infancy narrative, nor does it have a lengthy prologue to introduce it, as John's Gospel does. In Mark's account, one could say, Jesus hits the ground running. The stories we've been hearing these weeks come from the very first chapter of Mark, and they show us the public ministry of Jesus in its infancy. Today's account shows some of the strain or adjustment of his new life of preaching the reign of God, healing the sick, and casting out demons. Notice that after sunset, when darkness ended the workday, people brought the sick and possessed to Jesus. The following day he rose before dawn to get away by himself to pray, but to no avail. Simon Peter and the others don't just look for him, they pursue him, filled with the fervor that his ministry has incited. With the self-sacrificing example he gave until the end of his earthly life, he tells his followers that this is his whole purpose. Through Mark, he is also telling the early church, and he is telling us, that this is our purpose, our vocation: to be tireless in our pursuit of proclaiming the Good News, and in bringing the healing, reconciling touch of Christ to the world.



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 8:

7:30 am STA. . . . John Roman †
 9:00 am OLR . . . Vince Giovannotto †
 10:30 am OLR . . . Brian Franklin †
Readings: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

Monday, February 9:

Readings: Gn 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday, February 10: St. Scholastica

Readings: Gn 1:20 — 2:4a; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 11: Our Lady of Lourdes

7:15 am Alice, Vincent & Diane Simeone
Readings: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mk 7:14-23

Thursday, February 12:

8:30 am Special Intention for Anjali & Asha
 12:15 pm Eirene Galisim †
Readings: Gn 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30

Friday, February 13:

8:30 am Special Intention for Montana
Readings: Gn 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37

Saturday, February 14: St. Cyril and St. Methodius;

5:00 pm SAG . . . Patricia Henckels †
Readings: Gn 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10

[The Lord] tells the number of the stars and calls them by name.

— Psalm 147:4

2009 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL



As we look at our lives and the many ways God has blessed us, let us give back a portion to the Annual Diocesan Appeal as a way of saying thank you to the Lord. If you have yet to make your pledge to our parish's annual support of the Diocese, please consider doing so today. This is your once-a-year opportunity to share your gifts with our local Church and help our parish meet its goal of \$116,250.

Pledge envelopes and brochures can be found in the pews or stop by our ADA Tables after Mass. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

Saturday & Sunday February 14 & 15, 2009

St. Albert the Great

Sat 5:00 pm Fr. Aranha
 Sun 9:00 am Fr. Aranha

St. Thomas Aquinas

Sun 7:30 am Fr. Hester
 Sun 8:45 am Fr. Rubio
 Sun 10:30 am Fr. Aranha
 Sun 12 noon Fr. Nahoe

Our Lady of the Rosary

Sun 9:00 am (español) . . Fr. Gutiérrez
 Sun 10:30 am Fr. Gutiérrez



Please Pray

FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND — Nancy Condon, Nicholas Humy, Chet Maksim, Devin Wakefield, Cypress Winters, Sophie Bandur, Fr. Charlie Macedo, Carole Stuart, Mary Harvey, Michael Fong, Brian Dooney, Rita McAlester, Frances Kral, Sherry Kruep, Carson Englhardt



FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED — Beatrice Espicha, Sarah Ann Washburn, Mary Hansen, Mary Imbornone, Donald Ewart, Susa Langdon, Marian Partelow, Jerry Chu, Rita Kramer, Brian Franklin, Alan McPherson, Lena DeFrenza
 Pray For Lists guidelines: • Have permission from the person to be listed. • Go through the Pastoral Home Ministry to list the names. • Names will be on the list for 3 months and then be removed. • Can request names to be continued after 3 months. Contact the Pastoral Home Ministry 650-494-2496 x22 or fongmt@hotmail.com

Please note our email address:
bulletin@paloaltocatholic.org

BULLETIN ARTICLE DUE
 Feb 22 . . . **Thu** Feb 12 noon
 Mar 1 . . . **Thu** Feb 19 noon



Our Weekly Offering

January 25 \$ 9,332.21
 St. Elizabeth Seton School \$ 3,507.00
thank you for your continued generosity

Year To Date

Actual YTD . . . \$ 362,711.81
 Budget YTD . . \$ 385,006.99
 Variance - 5.79 %

February 8, 2009

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, February 8: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Day for Consecrated Life; World Marriage Day; Boy Scout Sunday; Tu B'Shvat (Jewish new year of trees) begins at sunset

9:15 am Rel. Ed. Sac. Prep. (OLR)

10:15 am Rel. Ed. Sac. Prep. (SAG)

Monday, February 9:

7:00 pm RCIA (PC)

7:30 pm Medjugorje Group (KC)

Tuesday, February 10:

7:00 am Breakfast (SAGH)

Wednesday, February 11: World Day of the Sick

Thursday, February 12: Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

11:00 am Seton Dev. (SAGC)

7:00 pm First Communion (PC)

7:00 pm Thomas Merton (SAGC)

Friday, February 13:

7:00 pm Young Adult (OLRH)

Saturday, February 14: Valentine's Day

Second Collection this weekend:

..... *St. Vincent de Paul*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers Needed In The Spiritual Care Program, Stanford University Hospital:

The Spiritual Care Service at Stanford Hospital is seeking Catholic volunteers to visit, pray and offer the Eucharist to patients and families. Volunteers must be willing to commit two hours a week for a year.

A Training Program will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Hall, 3233 Cowper Street, Palo Alto on Monday evenings: March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering, please respond by calling the Spiritual Care Service office at 650-723-5101 or email ghollingsworth@stanfordmed.org and listing your name and phone number. Interviews begin in February.

UPCOMING PARISH & DIOCESE EVENTS

ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVENT SINGERS REGROUPING: ENYA NEED

NOT APPLY! The annual St. Patrick's Day event is a mere 5 weeks away -

- Saturday, March 14th 6:00 - 8:00 PM at the SES Auditorium, 1095 Channing Ave. In an evening highlighted by corned beef and cabbage, Celtic dancers, and a program by "Four Shillings Short", party celebrants will have the assembled opportunity to croon their Irish favorites -- yes, even "Danny Boy." Circle the calendar! Tickets go on sale for this perennial sell-out over the weekend 02/28 - 03/01. Volunteer workers always welcome!!! (Joe Kinsella: 364-3705)

VOLUNTEER FOR THE PARISH ARCHIVES

The St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Archives project is now up and running! A group of dedicated volunteers has begun organizing materials from our parish life and history. Materials from different ministries are being collected and organized, with the goal of preserving the documents and making them available for future use or research.

It is exciting to work with our Parish's "historical" documents and artifacts, and we need more helping hands! If you can volunteer for 2-3 hours each week in the coming year, we would love to have your assistance on materials related to:

- pastor, staff, parishioner photos
- community life and social activities
- historical write ups

In addition, we're looking for expertise related to database creation, and database entry. If you can help or have questions, contact Mary Beth Lefebvre at mbstudy@yahoo.com or 650-323-4781.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION SUNDAY

We are in a very deep recession period. It is said to be the worst since the "Great Depression." During times of severe economic hardship, it is the most vulnerable in our society who are most adversely affected. Most days of the week St. Vincent de Paul has requests for rent & utility help. Many people are facing eviction because after losing their jobs, they are unable to pay their rent. We have been experiencing very cold weather & there is more cold weather ahead of us.

Sarah had been managing quite well. She had obtained Section 8 housing & was supporting herself with a computer job she was able to do in her home. In the fall she became very ill with a lung infection and was not able to work for a month. She fell behind in her telephone payments and St. Vincent de Paul helped her with her phone payments. The telephone is essential to her computer job. A few months later she developed an allergy to the medicine she had been taking & was unable to work for another month. This time we helped her with her rent. Consider the situation Sara would have been in if she were evicted for failure to pay her rent. When the collection basket comes your way, think of Sarah who without St. Vincent de Paul help, may have lost her home & many others like her who are in danger of becoming jobless & without warm housing and please give generously when the collection basket comes your way.

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish

AGE OF AQUINAS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 – SHORELINE PARK HIKE AND COFFEE Meet at Lakeside Café in Mountain View's Shoreline Park near the breezeway between the café and the Aquatic Center at 9 am. This is a hike on mostly level, mostly paved paths. Afterwards gather at the café around 10:00 for coffee or brunch. We always hike, rain or shine! Randy, age-of-aquinas@paloaltocatholic.org, or 408.739.2881.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 – LOS GATOS CREEK TRAIL HIKE Meet at the Main St Bridge over Highway 17. East of the bridge is the trailhead. The round trip takes about 90 minutes and the exercise level is ambitious. After the hike there is the possibility of food and socializing at the Los Gatos Coffee Roasting Co which sometimes features a soup/salad half-sandwich special, besides great coffee. Directions to Main St Bridge trailhead: From the 101 or I-280 or CA-85, take I-880/CA-17 exit and travel south to the CA-9 exit (Los Gatos). From there go west to N Santa Cruz Ave or east to Los Gatos Blvd, and turn south to Main St. Parking is on the street. Email: Elise elisefranck@hotmail.com or call 408.335.9159.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 – TRANSITIONS SUPPORT GROUP 7:30 pm at the St. Thomas Aquinas Pastoral Center. Transitions is a drop-in support group for those who are undergoing the transition from couple-hood to single-hood. If you or someone you know has suffered the breakup of a marriage or significant relationship, this group may be helpful. More info: www.paloaltocatholic.org/AofA.html or contact Randy Jones, 408-739-2881, transitions@paloaltocatholic.org

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23 – FREE FINANCIAL TALK The topic is Financial Wisdom For Mid-Lifers, and the talk is free. Ms. Edmunds-Zediker is a Certified Financial Planner specializing in financial planning, financial education, and insurance planning. She is currently Financial Advisor for Foothill Securities. Time: 7:30 pm till about 8:30 pm with Q&A time afterward. Cost: FREE! Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Mabel if you plan to attend. Location: St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center, 1095 Channing Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94301 More information: Email Mabel m-ngo@sbcglobal.net or age-of-aquinas@paloaltocatholic.org, or visit www.paloaltocatholic.org/AofA.html.

WORLD FAMOUS PASSION PLAY

Join Father George, and a bus full of happy Catholics, for the experience of a lifetime: The opportunity to see the famous passion play in Oberammergau, Germany, depicting the last week and passion of our Lord. Every 10 years this tiny hamlet performs the play in keeping with their 377 year old promise to God. It is literally performed with a cast of hundreds. People will be coming from all over the world to see it. We will also visit the "Best of Poland and Prague". The trip is 11 days: Sept. 8th – 18th, 2010.

You may say, "Wow, 2010 is a long time from now." The demand for tickets will FAR exceed the supply plus we will limit our group to just one bus. Don't delay; Act now! Brochures are available at the Pastoral Center or if that is difficult for you, email me and I will get one to you- ndwade@pacbell.net. Deposits are already being accepted. You don't want to miss this!

QUARTERLY REPORT

COMMUNICATIONS BOARD

(November, 2008 – January, 2009)

Members: Pat Briggs, Phil Coates, Mike Flynn (parish Webmaster), Nichole Khan (PSC rep), Chris Lundin (chair), Marguerite Purcell, Roland Quintero (parish photographer), Mary Sullivan (secretary), Kay Williams.

Ongoing Activities: - Produce weekly eBulletin (Chris Lundin, editor); - Publicize parish activities; - Maintain parish Website; - Edit parish ministries' quarterly reports

Major Recent Activities: - Produced the parish's first annual report; - Worked on enhancing the parish bulletin; - Proposed to the diocese the "Clear Speech" program for foreign-born priests; - Planned parts of the 2009 parish annual report; - Assisted Nora Lundin, Parish Liturgy Coordinator, with gathering information from parish groups and ministries for an online parish calendar; - Organized a December social for the committee members

INTERIOR REMODEL COMMITTEE

The new year finds the St. Thomas Aquinas Interior Remodel Committee up and ready, and raring to go! Its goal is to have an overall plan, divided into short term and long term goals for the renovation and repair of various items at St. Thomas Aquinas Church.

Areas on which the members would like to work have been identified as: Acoustics, Lighting, The altar area (making it safe for all of its occupants), Painting of the interior, Carpet, Choir loft area, Front of the church, Miscellaneous repairs and updates.

Everybody who worships at St. Thomas Aquinas is welcome to join this exciting committee. The next meeting will be February 18 at 7:30 PM at the home of Judy and Bob Foley, please call 650-322-8650 for more info.